

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 OMB-01 /067 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1448

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USDOCOSOUTH

USCINCEUR

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1224

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR CY MOPS TU

SUBJECT: FURTHER COMMENTS ON APRIL 1 CEASEFIRE VIOLATION

REF: NICOSIA 1195

1. UNFICYP SPOKESMAN APRIL 2 ISSUED STRONG STATEMENT ATTRIBUTING FIRST SHOTS IN CEASEFIRE VIOLATION TO NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS. STATEMENT NOTED THAT TURKISH RESPONSE HAD ESCALATED INTO "MOST SERIOUS VIOLATION OF CEASEFIRE IN LAST EIGHT MONTHS", LASTING 2 1/2 HOURS ALONG SEVERAL MILES OF CONFRONTATION LINE. UNFICYP AGAIN CALLED ON BOTH SIDES TO AVOID FIRING OR RETURNING FIRE, GIVEN VULNERABILITY OF CEASEFIRE AND POTENTIAL GRAVITY OF FURTHER VIOLATIONS. GOVERNMENT MEDIA, PRESS GAVE HEAVY COVERAGE TO UNFICYP STATEMENT.

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2. DURING EXCHANGE, CANADIAN OFFICER WATCHING FROM

BALCONY LEDRA PALACE HOTEL WAS KILLED. UNFICYP HAS NOT REPEAT NOT DETERMINED SOURCE OF FATAL SHOT. IN SEPARATE INCIDENT ABOUT NOON 1 APRIL, FINNISH CONTINGENT COMMANDER SUFFERED SUPERFICIAL WOUND IN LEFT SIDE WHEN FIRED ON BY TURKISH TROOPS IN AREA ABOUT 40 MILES WEST OF NICOSIA.

3. APRIL 1 GOC STATEMENT TRIED TO DOWNPLAY CEASEFIRE VIOLATION, CLAIMING THAT IT LACKED "PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE", AND APPARENTLY BEGUN BY "IRRESPONSIBLE" ELEMENTS. HOWEVER, GOC IMPLICITY ACCEPTS UNFICYP CONCLUSION THAT NG TROOPS CELEBRATING EOKA ANNIVERSARY CAUSED INCIDENT. THIS REGARD, APRIL 3 PRO-MAKARIOS PHILELEFTHEROS AND SENSATIONALIST MAKHI CRITICIZED IRRESPONSIBLE SHOOTING IN SENSITIVE GREEN LINE AREA.
CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

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